

15. (Amended) A method of producing a tableted gum comprising the steps of:  
providing a gum component;  
processing the gum component to form one or more gum chips;  
mixing the gum chips with a tableting media; and  
processing the mixture of gum chips and tableting media to form the tableted gum,  
wherein the tableting media has an average particle size that is smaller in size than the average  
particle size of the gum chips.